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Tulsa District

TULSA

DISTRICT RECORD

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A fire truck which holds 1,000 gallons of water attempts to put out a fire in the mock fuselage, part of the new fire fighting facility at Vance Air Force Base. A successful test, the fuselage withstood the dousing. The fuselage is only part of the total project.

The project also includes construction of a control tower, placement of propane and oxygen tanks and lines, a gravel pit consisting of three-inch gravel, sand, filter cloth, and geo-tech liner, and a water holding pond.

Courtesy of Vance Air Force Base

Vance Project Team Makes Its Mark

Peggy Massey
Public Affairs Office

On time, under budget. Always music to Corps ears. And that's exactly the way it was at Vance Project Office on the completion of the Air Force's new Fire Training Facility. Brawner Construction, along with the Corps Gerald Grosz, project engineer, and Wes Baker, quality assurance representative at Vance, deserve applause for bringing the project in five weeks ahead of schedule and \$15,000 under the original contract price.

The project was certified by two inspectors from the Air Force Civil Engineers Support Agency on their first attempt, which for this type of facility is rare. Representing the two fac-

ets of the inspection process, engineering and operations, the inspectors each inspected the project on different days, and both came to the same conclusions – that the facility passed both criteria with flying colors. They remarked to Grosz that the inspections went more smoothly than any they had ever performed. "Vance Air Force fire chief, Andrew Anderson, was very pleased with the facility," Grosz stated.

The project was not without its hurdles. It had taken years to get to the construction stage of this project. The basic

See Fire Facility, page 3

Commander's Column



Col. Leonardo Flor
District Engineer

Reflections

*These past few months mark the end, not just of another millennium, but also the lives of many friends, co-workers, and relatives. Such loss brings great sadness, sometimes difficult to overcome. Barbara Craven's death in April is especially difficult for a lot of us. She had often brought joy through these very pages you now read. If she were to have a shot at one more TDR, I am sure she would make it clear for us to remember her, not for what she had to endure this spring, but for all her many accomplishments in the 22 years she served the district. This edition of the Tulsa District Record is dedicated to the memory of **Barbara Cravens**, co-worker and friend.*

Last September, hard as I tried, I could not get my son from West Point to California fast enough to see his grandfather still alive. Instead, he arrived the day after. Feeling badly, he and I took a slow jog along Redondo Beach and spoke about how my father lived his life. I had not realized how much this had meant to him until a month later when I received a poem from him. I share this in the hopes that you can find solace, as I did, in among its words. It can be found on page 18 of this publication.

First I want to acknowledge the distinguished service of a great soldier-leader, **Gen. Joe N. Ballard**. For 35 years, Lt. Gen. Ballard placed duty, honor, and country above self. As the 49th Chief of Engineers, he provided us the Vision that ensures our enduring value to the nation as a district and as a Corps through another century. He retires on June 9, 2000. Sir, if you ever want to do real bass fishing, come to a Tulsa District lake!



The Spotlight

The Spotlight

There are many successes to celebrate since the last TDR.

On March 15, we had a very successful 2000 Women's History Program thanks to the effort of **Shirley Rolison** and the Federal Women's Program Committee. It was a pleasure to have **Lt. Col. Carla Coulson**, deputy commander of Southwestern Division, as our guest speaker.

On March 23, the Army Performance Improvement Criteria Self-Assessment Team presented their gap analysis to the corporate board, branch chiefs, Operations Division area managers, and union representatives. The team did an outstanding job of analyzing all the input and coming up with a product that will help improve our district. The team consisted of **Julie McCollough, Jim Fry, Dennis Thomas, Terry Rice, Ron Jordan, Becky Leavitt Butterfield, Nick Osier, Mary Beth Hudson, Beth Sauls, Bonnie Moore, Ruth Norris, Margaret Johanning, and Capt. Terry Orange**. They put heart and soul into their SAT duties so that you can be full participants in our strategic planning process.

Mary Sullivent is the Customer Care Employee for first quarter FY 00. Congratulations to Mary and the other nominees, **Kari Barr** and **Mary Meeker**.

Thanks to **Gene Lilly, Jim Randolph, Rick Thomas**, and many others, I had the pleasure of signing three Project Cooperation Agreements for ecological restoration projects in Oklahoma City on April 18. The mayor, city council, and Congressmen Istook and Lucas publicly thanked the efforts of the Corps and the district to make the three Canadian River projects a reality.

See Spotlight, page 16

Tulsa District Record

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District Engineer
Col. Leonardo Flor

Public Affairs Officer
W. Ross Adkins

Editor
Mary Beth Hudson



The photo shows one of the Vance Air Force Base’s firefighting teams attempting to extinguish a fire in the mock-up fuselage. The facility passed the test by not being extinguishable by the firemen, except by turning off the propane valves.

Courtesy of Vance Air Force Base

... Fire Facility

from page 1

concept design was done by the Air Force. There had been 40 other bases with fire training facilities built in the past several years. “Lessons Learned” from those projects had to be incorporated in the new design. Then there were the many amendments during the bid process which had to be included.

The Corps major players and the prime contractor brought to the table thorough previous knowledge and experience in construction of fire training facilities. It was the third such facility for Dan Johnson, resident engineer, Central Oklahoma Area Office, who supervises Vance Project Office. “This was the fourth fire training facility built by Tulsa District in the past several years. It was the second one for Jerry Grosz, Wes

Baker, and Brawner Construction,” Johnson stated. As resident engineer, Johnson had been involved in the construction of a similar facility at Sheppard Air Force Base. That project was followed by the construction of the fire training facility at Altus Air Force Base, where Grosz was project engineer. Baker’s experience was at Tinker Air Force Base, where he served as the Corps quality assurance representative on the fire training facility, working alongside prime contractor, Brawner Construction.

“There was a lot of effort at the very beginning and a good blend of experience which really paid off in the successful execution of this project,” Johnson concluded.

Society of American Military Engineers Meeting Calendar

<u>When</u>	<u>Where</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>When</u>	<u>Where</u>	<u>Topic</u>
Jun 20	Corps of Engineers	Joint meeting with FEA Remedial Technologies HTRW	Jul 12	OneOK Cafeteria	Joint PMI/SAME

Volunteers in Action — *Helping the Corps*

Peggy Massey, Public Affairs Office
Photos courtesy of area offices

Tulsa District benefits from the generosity of its many dedicated volunteers. According to Kenny Whitehead, Fall River lake manager and district volunteer program chairman, volunteers at lake projects from across the district and some from outside our boundaries have increased in numbers from 1,715 in 1998 to 2,276 in 1999. "In terms of dollar value of the free services of these folks, a conservative estimate is approximately \$466,000 in 1998, increasing to \$729,000 in 1999," he said.

There is an active volunteer program at Texoma Area Office. Dwaine McBee, volunteer coordinator there, provided examples of work done in just one park. Gary and Gerry Grentz from Marion, Kan., have been winter camp hosts at Buncombe Creek for two years. According to McBee, "They have painted everything in the park, replaced utility table tops, and trimmed trees. Not only did they clear a nature trail through the park, they also constructed two bridges

along the trail which will be an added attraction to the park for lake visitors."

Debbie Chaloupek, volunteer coordinator at Canton Lake Project Office, reported the able assistance of Dean Shook of Beaver,



Buster Sundstrom
Canton volunteer

Helen and Buster Sundstrom of Woodward, and Bob Riddle and Jean and Bill Flesher of Hennessey. They maintain flowerbeds at the public use areas, paint, do safety checks on playground equipment, make repairs as needed, haul limbs

with their personal vehicles, and monitor day use fees by issuing courtesy notices to violators.

Mike Schrick, coordinator at Keystone Project Office, reports the Perry Elks Camping Club stayed at Washington Irving South April 6-11. During that time, seven units of the club did 20 hours of volunteer work in lieu of camping fees. They collected trash, hauled debris, cleaned remote beach areas, nature trails and campsites, and stacked kindling at campsite fire rings. Supervision of the group was provided by Keystone's volun-



Dean Shook, Canton volunteer, issues a courtesy notice.

teer coordinators, Elmo Burke, Leroy Harley, and Jerry Kannard, park host. Club coordinator was John Franklin, Perry. Schrick reports that over the past two years the group gave about 6.5 man-years of volunteer effort to Keystone Lake.

Folks from other states also volunteer at district lakes according to Mike Dumford, coordinator at Eufaula Project Office. Don and Caroline Stubbs from Vermont are repeat visitors at Lake Eufaula, where they spent their second summer vacation dismantling, re-pairing, and painting playground

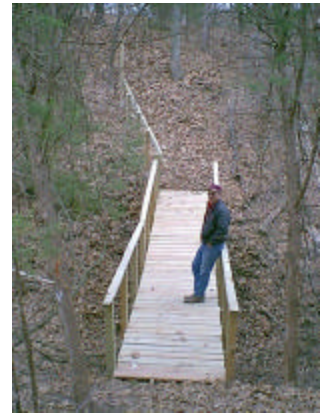


Caroline Stubbs, from Vermont, volunteers at Lake Eufaula.

equipment, planting and staking trees, and cleaning the cookers and fire rings. They also studied various work tasks and used their com-

puter to write associated activity hazard analyses, which are being shared with other lake offices. After completing their work at Eufaula, they moved on to Canton Lake and worked just as hard there.

Not all of the Corps volunteers are retirees. Glenda Vincent, volunteer coordinator at Oologah Project Office, reports that Michelle Cale, 16, a student at Owasso High School, volunteered last summer in conjunction with earning a Girl Scout Gold Service award. "Shee built a bulletin board information center for Hawthorn Park, and helped with the water safety school and fish attractor programs," Vincent said.



Gary Grentz on one of the two bridges he and his wife built at Lake Texoma.



Canton Lake volunteers floating through the Walleye Rodeo Parade.

Each lake office has a coordinator who conducts security checks on volunteers, organizes them, and plans work activities.

Volunteers in Action — *The Corps Helping*

Peggy Massey
Public Affairs Office

Tulsa District benefits from the host of Corps employees who, on their own time, make valuable volunteer contributions to their communities.

We hear a lot these days about volunteerism, but district employees are way ahead of the current advocates. They've been volunteering in various capacities for years and making a difference out in their communities, some even risking their lives.

Did you know that:

■ Yolane and Tim Hartsfield are volunteer firefighters in the thriving metropolis of Blue, Okla., and are in their 12th year of service? Both are founding members of the fire department. Yolane is the fire chief; Tim is the training officer.

■ Andy Obrochta, geologist, Engineering and Construction Division's HTRW Design Center, works as a scoutmaster with Tulsa's Boy Scout Troop 33, comprised predominantly of low income and inner city boys?

■ Jocelyn Ashcraft, Operations Division, and her husband, Mark, have been Tulsa Zoo docents since 1983?

■ Ray Tomasko, E&C, Quality Assurance Branch, is a member of the

Claremore Community Chorus and on the board of directors for Rural Sewer District No. 1 in Rogers County?

■ Brian Osberghaus, Oolagah, has taken annual leave to help get the water safety message out to as many kids in the state as possible?

■ Mary Beth Hudson, Public Affairs Office, tutors in Tulsa's adult literacy program?

■ Carla Carrico, Pat Mayse Lake, volunteers at the Agape House Free Medical Clinic in Paris, Texas, where she works with indigent patients and the elderly, publishes their newsletter, and serves on the board of governors for Agape House Ministries International?

■ Gina Arteche, E&C, Quality Assurance Branch, and her husband, Paul, work with kids in activities ranging from sport programs, oratorical and essay contests, hearing impaired, to ABC (Always Buckle Children) under the auspices of Optimists International? Gina now serves as a member of the board. When her husband was elected district governor of the organization, they visited almost every club in the district encouraging the Optimists' work among children and young people.

■ Sandra Stiles, Fort Gibson, is Young Women's president in her church and teaches them life skills through various planned activities in the community?

■ Jim Leach, E&C, Hydrology Branch, is a Webeloe den leader and a church elder in Tulsa?

■ Jan Morris, Real Estate Division, is a fund raiser for the Boy Scouts and works with Andy Obrochta's troop in inner city Tulsa?

■ Russell Holeman, E&C, is a leader in the Boy Scouts?

■ Mary Ann Duke, E&C, Hydrology and Hydraulics Branch, is a Girl Scout leader?

■ Bob Stubbs, Logistics, is a volunteer reserve police officer at Fort Gibson, and also with the Cherokee County Sheriff's office?

■ Paul Bisdorf, E&C, H&H Branch, is a reserve police officer in Broken Arrow and an emergency medical technician?

■ Mike Perryman, E&C, H&H Branch, preaches in churches around the state?

■ Greg Estep, E&C, H&H Branch, serves each year as a volunteer at church youth camp and has been to South America on church outreach missions?

■ Joe Skelton, Central Oklahoma Resident Office, Tinker Air Force Base, and his wife, Dinah, take vacation leave each year to teach preschoolers in vacation bible school?

■ Wes Baker supports with time and resources a girls' volleyball team at Calumet High School and has served as president of the booster club?

■ Warren Roberts, Texoma Area Office, is a volunteer fireman and helped build six fire trucks, which serve as both tankers and pump trucks, for the town of Philadelphia, Okla.?

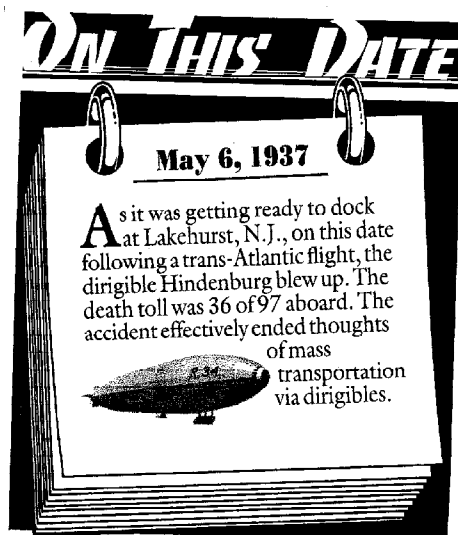
■ Rex Ostrander, E&C, H&H Branch, is on the board of directors of the city of Jenks girls softball league, has served as president of the Jenks High School girls softball team, coached a girls fast-pitch team, and is a member of the Jenks High School Bond Issue Task Force to identify and prioritize needs for the school?

■ Tom Logsdon has served as a Boy Scout leader for 20 years and currently coaches a soccer team?

There are many others who give of their time and resources to benefit their communities.

Questions for the
Human Resources Office?

1-800-453-8907



Money for Road Upgrades to Benefit Lake Areas

Peggy Massey, Public Affairs Office
Johnny Bell, Programs and Project Management Division

Several Corps lake areas in Oklahoma, Texas, and Kansas are benefiting from the \$6.5 million set aside from operation and maintenance funds by the Tulsa District for much needed park road improvement.

Lake areas included in the \$6.5 million package are W.D. Mayo Lock and Dam 14, Robert S. Kerr Lock and Dam 15, Webbers Falls Lock and Dam 16, Eufaula, Texoma, Tenkiller, Fort Gibson, Keystone, Robert S. Kerr, Oologah, Skiatook, Pat Mayse, Big Hill, and Marion.

Roads in the lake areas were built for much lighter vehicles. With increased use by the public of larger recreational vehicles, road improvements are long overdue. Ongoing modernization projects at the lakes also make it necessary to improve accessibility. Modernization of several parks within Tulsa District are expected as funds become available.

Road evaluations had not been performed since the early 1990s when focus had shifted to possibly using others outside the Corps for the maintenance and upkeep of the lake areas, but that idea was abandoned. When Tulsa District set aside the monies for park road improvements, a major engineering evaluation and design effort got underway. Both in-house evaluation/design teams and outside architect-engineer teams were mobilized.

To ensure the construction effort was completed by the end of FY 00, Tulsa District teamed-up with Little Rock and Kansas City Districts to use their construction contracts.

Big Hill Lake, Kan., is targeted next for construction activity.



Road work is being done at parks throughout the district to improve access and to accommodate today's much heavier vehicles.

Johnny Bell

District Reaches Out to Businesses

Peggy Massey
Public Affairs Office

Small and disadvantaged businesses are receiving strong encouragement from the Tulsa District through acceleration of its efforts to use them to accomplish its mission.

Col. Leonardo Flor, commander, emphasized, "Investing in the development of small businesses is good business for the Corps. A multitude of highly capable small businesses exist that are eager to demonstrate that they can perform quality work at competitive prices for the district. As a result, we get



Yolane Hartsfield, right, helps Joan Lindley with a small business application. Lindley, a landscape designer, is owner of CLS & Associates, the only landscape firm in Oklahoma solely owned by a female.

Peggy Massey

more competition and lower costs for Corps of Engineers contracts and services. My goal for the small business office is to find more matches for small businesses with district needs."

To accomplish this goal, the district has established a small business office under Programs and Project Management Division and has assigned Yolane Hartsfield as full-time coordinator. As the initial point of contact for small businesses, she helps them register with the Corps of Engineers, Department of Army, and Department of Defense.

"Our goal is not to complicate an on-going process, but to simplify it. We are working hard to get the word of contracting opportunities within the Corps out to

See Small Business, page 16

District Partners with Ammunition Plant

John Roberts
Deputy District Engineer for
Programs and Project Management

On April 19th, 26 representatives of the McAlester Army Ammunition Plant, Army Materiel Command, and the Corps of Engineers Tulsa District, Southwestern Division, and Engineering Research Development Center met to identify and implement initiatives to enhance “the mission accomplishment of McAlester Army Ammunition Plant in support of the warfighters.”

Gary Reasnor, director of engineering and public works for the plant, concluded, “We accomplished more than I anticipated in the short time period. I believe that both organizations will reap benefits from the newly discovered understanding of the other and the spirit of teaming that was achieved.”

Other attendees included Col. Patrick Dunkle, plant commander; Deputy Commander Donna Adam; Darrell Elliott, director of environmental quality; and Tulsa District deputy commander, Lt. Col. Lawrence Norton.

The meeting began with a group tour of the bomb lines. Brian Lott and Col. Norton presented briefings on the missions of the plant and the district. Dan Johnson discussed how the district has realigned its resident offices to better support the plant. Construction projects there are now overseen by the Central Oklahoma Resident Office.



A scene from the bomb line in Building 190, McAlester Army Ammunition Plant.

Richard Lampo of the Engineering Research Development Center briefed on the new design of plastic railroad ties which may have applications at the plant, particularly in areas where wood ties rot and have to be replaced frequently or in environmentally sensitive areas where plastic ties would be more acceptable than chemically-treated timbers.

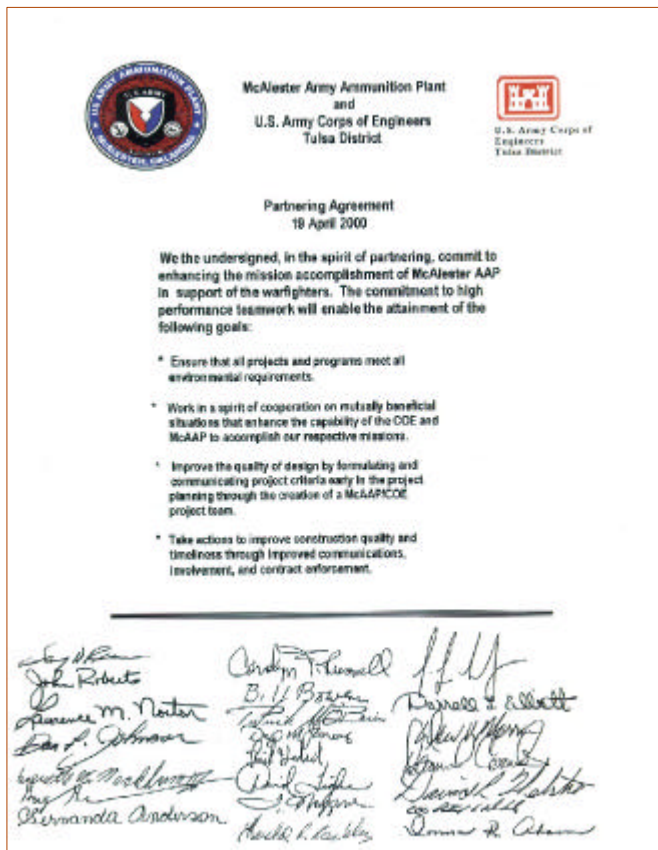
Other topics and presenters were:

- Plant Expectations by Gary Reasnor and Darrell Elliott;
- Corps Project Management Business Process and Customer Care Surveys by John Roberts;
- Corps Capabilities by district military and environmental project managers, David Webster and Carolyn Russell;
- Contracting Capabilities by Rick Hedrick, and
- New Army Construction Contingency Guidance by Bill Bowen of SWD.

Partnering participants worked on specific actions to improve overall team performance in the following four focus areas:

- Construction Quality and Timeliness
- Design Quality
- Environmental Service
- Partnerships

With the completion of the partnering meeting with the plant, the district has, within the last 18 months, entered into partnering agreements with each of the six military installations that we support. Our focus on customer relationships has paid great dividends. Recently, Tulsa District was recognized by Headquarters, USACE, for being in the “Top Five Districts” for sustained high ratings by military customers.



Dogs & Dynamite

Dan Bentley
Tenkiller Project Office

Why would you want hotdogs and dynamite at the same location? What do hard hats and playgrounds have in common? Why would anyone allow numerous children and their parents anywhere near high voltage electricity? What possible event could have brought all these together in the same place at the same time? It was the "Take Your Daughters and Sons To Work Day" picnic and outing at Tenkiller Lake on April 27.

On that beautiful spring day, several employees of the Tulsa District journeyed with their children to Tenkiller to savor the lake vistas, observe the new auxillary spillway worksite, and take a quick tour of the powerhouse. After several morning activities at the district office, about 60 employees and their children came to the lake.

At Tenkiller they were joined by field personnel and their families. Cathy Williams and Lucy Spaulding treated the group to a delicious lunch of grilled hotdogs with all the trimmings, chips, and soft drinks.

Before the feast began, participants were witness to an explosion at the auxillary spillway worksite. Dennis Frazier, Corps project engineer on site, along with two of his construction personnel, Barry Piles and Aaron Goldner, had orchestrated the timing of the blast with the spillway contractor. About noon, after traffic had been stopped along State Highway 100 and the warning horns had sounded, the set charges were detonated right on schedule.

Members of the picnic outing watched from the safety of the Tenkiller Overlook as 633 pounds of dynamite shattered and ripped away some of the last rock to be removed during Phase I of the new spillway construction. After the rumbling of the blast had subsided, it was time to attend to the many rumbling bellies of the noon-time guests. The food was consumed almost as fast as the rock and earth had been consumed by the excavation site blast.

As participants finished their meals, many of the children went to play on the playground while others relaxed with their parents under the large Overlook pavilion. Personnel from the Tenkiller Lake Office welcomed the guests and presented a brief program about the lake. Water safety frisbees and Tenkiller vacation guides were made available for the kids and their parents. Next, it was time for the Corps construction representatives to discuss the auxillary spillway and to field some queries about the work.



Left to right, Isaac, Samantha, and Ashley climb the high cut rock wall near the powerhouse. Isaac and Samantha, 10 and 7 respectively, are children of Connie White, Operations Division, and 10-year-old Ashley is the daughter of John Roberts, Executive Office.

After asking several questions, the group was ready for a trip to the downstream side of the dam to visit the powerhouse.

When the caravan arrived, they learned about generating electricity. As the cold clear water of Tenkiller rushed through the turbines spinning out electricity, the buzzing low level roar of the powerhouse operation was interrupted for a time by the excited voices of its many young visitors. Employees divided the group into three smaller groups to better guide them along the tour.

As the day's activities ended and the group broke up to return to their homes, one could not help but wonder how many futures might have been influenced and directed on this day. The calendar date



Left to right, C. J. Spaulding, Ryan Williams, and Samaria Spaulding enjoy a delicious grilled hotdog picnic prepared by their mothers for the outing participants.

may be forgotten, but the events, the sights, and the sounds of the day may carry an impact long into the future for the children that came to Tenkiller to see what their parents do for a living. Who can say how many careers might have been shaped on this day? Perhaps some of these young people will aspire to join us and eventually to replace us, to perpetuate our fine and long standing organization that is the United States Army Corps of Engineers.



Ray Robertson, park ranger, brought his son, Matt, to work with him at Canton Lake on Take Your Daughters and Sons to Work Day. Robertson said, "He had a blast. We did some pruning on the nature trail, and built and put up a traffic sign near one of our parks. He asked me if he could take off school the following day so he could help me some more. It would be nice if we had more days that our family could walk along beside us on our jobs."

Spring Fling Fun With Fish

Aimee Jordan
Park Ranger

On April 12, the Eufaula Area Office hosted a Spring Fishing Fling, welcoming 264 third graders to Gentry Creek Pond. Also present were the Oklahoma Highway Patrol Lake Patrol Division, the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation, the Checotah Emergency Medical Service, and several volunteers from Eufaula Lake.

The fishing pond in Gentry Creek Park has been a collaborative effort by everyone at the Eufaula office. We felt the need for a fishing pond for children under 16 and the physically challenged. Many rangers contributed a lot of time to drag brush from the pond, create fish habitat, and clean the area. The maintenance team helped gravel a path around the pond and set benches. The ODWC stocked the pond with a variety of fish.



Hopefuls circle Gentry Creek Pond during the recent Spring Fling at Eufaula Lake.



The one that didn't get away.

On the day of the big event, the lake patrol joined rangers in presenting a water safety demonstration while the ODWC presented a fish identification and casting demonstration.

The kids threw out their lines and crossed their fingers. With almost 300 kids, there were a few tangled and broken lines. Ask volunteer Cletus Rushing how he felt up in that tree valiantly trying to rescue a bobber! Luckily, the day proceeded with no injuries, though ranger Rick Smither might have wondered if he would be able to leave with both of his ears intact, having volunteered to man the dock amongst the anxious army.

The kids boarded their busses about 2:00 p.m. with bags of goodies in hand and smiles on their faces. A host of businesses and individuals generously participated in the Spring Fling, and we would like to thank them all. A special thanks goes out to Dean Roberts of Tenkiller Project who gave much time and many poles. It was a fun day for all, and we hope it'll be even bigger and better next year.



Mary Sullivent

Customer Care Employee

Mary Sullivent, computer specialist in Physical Support Branch at Arcadia Project Office, has been named the Customer Care Employee of the Quarter for the first quarter, FY 00. Sullivent's duties are to provide technical support to lake offices, and she was nominated by employees from several of those offices.

Sullivent travels the area dealing with computer issues. Although she is on the road a great deal, she is not out of touch because her employee/customers have been given her cell phone number, and she frequently checks her voice mail.

Sullivent was noted for her pleasant attitude and determination to see a job through to its finish.

One nominator said, "Mary goes above and beyond the call of duty to get our computer systems fixed and going. . . She is the perfect example of what a customer care winner should be." Another stated, "Her ability to resolve problems proves invaluable to numerous lake offices. . . I have never once seen where we did not get a response or solution to our problem, no matter what it might be. Mary is very devoted to her job and helping her customers."

Kansas Area Exhibit Spreads Water Safety Message

Photos and article by Neal Whitaker

Pictured in photos on this page are some of the elements of the Kansas Area Water Safety/Lake Exhibit which have proven to be popular and educational. It was designed with three interactive water safety components:

1. "Emergency on the Water" – Emergency graphics equipped with a speaker so the user can listen to a short description of what a drowning person looks like and how to use safe throwing and reaching techniques to effect a possible



rescue. The display also stresses learning how to swim and the advantages of wearing a life jacket.



2. "Don't Swim Alone" – A self-teaching, stand-alone display which allows the user to compare buoyancy with and without a life jacket. The display uses two "Ken" dolls, one which is wearing a life jacket. The dolls are attached to two spring-loaded plungers which can be depressed. The doll wearing the life jacket offers more resistance or buoyancy and his head stays above the water's surface. In comparison, the doll without the life jacket offers little resistance and easily goes below the surface of the water. "Life jackets help you breath air, not water."

3. "Hypothermia" – Another stand-alone display equipped with a small tank of cold circulating water which is designed to help the visitor understand the potential danger of hypothermia. The visitor is invited to first take their skin temperature by touching a small temperature sensor with one finger. Next they immerse the same finger in the cold water of 45-50 degrees F. for a period of 30 seconds. After taking their skin temperature again, the visitor finds their skin temperature has dropped 10 to 15 degrees in a short amount of time. Since water is 25 times more dense than air, water of the same temperature will conduct heat 25 times faster, leading to hypothermia. Hunters and fishermen visiting the fair are surprised how dangerous winter, spring, and fall environmental conditions can be and realize that they must prepare by wearing adequate thermal protection and a life jacket and learning the "HELP and HUDDLE" positions. Visitors are also shown how to protect themselves against "torso reflex."



Courtesy of Waurika Project Office

Col. Flor presents a plaque and commemorative coin to Bill Bandy on behalf of the Waurika Project Staff.

Fine Dining

**Tim Adkins
Waurika Lake Office**

Earlier this year, Col. Flor visited the Waurika Lake Office and briefed employees. Although he probably didn't know exactly what was in store for him, he couldn't have picked a better day for his visit.

Area resident Bill Bandy had planned a fish fry that day for the employees of the Waurika Project. Bandy fishes at the lake regularly and is quite an accomplished fisherman; he even packages and sells his own brand of catfish punchbait. He has been having fish fries at the project office for many years, and it doesn't hurt our feelings any when he asks to come back.

The average attendance at one of Bandy's gatherings is usually about 20 people, and there is always food left over. In addition to the project office staff, guests have included members of the Oklahoma Highway/Lake Patrol; the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation; the Waurika Project Master Conservancy District; the Jefferson, Cotton, and Stephens County Sheriffs' departments; and many other friends and relatives.

We took advantage of Col. Flor's attendance and asked him to present a plaque and commemorative coin to Bandy. The meal was great as always and, if the district engineer's next visit to the project happens to land on a fish fry day, one might wonder if it should be attributed to good luck or good planning!

Self-Assessment Results

**Julie McCollough
Total Army Quality Coordinator**

In the Fall 1999 issue of the *Tulsa District Record*, you were introduced to the Self-Assessment Team. The article talked about why we, the Tulsa District, were conducting a self-assessment and who was participating. Quoting Paul Harvey, "I want to tell you the rest of the story."

In December 1999, all employees had the opportunity to take the web-based Army Performance Improvement Criteria survey. The results of that survey were shared with us in February 2000. We found out that employees, the division and office chiefs, and our customers generally felt the district was doing a good job overall, but that there was room for improvement. The survey results are still on our Team Page on the internet under the APIC heading.

In March, the Self-Assessment Team presented the results of their work to the division and office chiefs, the Operations Division area managers, and the unions. The information that was shared during the meeting is on the same web page as the survey results.

Most of us know that you cannot please all of the people all of the time, which is what we found about our customers. The SAT found that the Tulsa District customers are generally pleased to be doing business with us.

Many of us feel that morale could be improved. However, when we asked everyone that we interviewed to rate their personal morale from 1 to 5, with 1 being poor and 5 being excellent, we found a pleasant surprise. The average morale for our division and office chiefs was 3.69, and the average for all others was 3.56. While not scientific, this does provide an indication that we are more satisfied than we believe.

We found several areas that could be improved based on the team's review. The SAT identified "gaps" which represent a difference in how the district is currently doing business as measured against the APIC criteria.

Some of you voluntarily participated in prioritizing the identified gaps. The top three gaps identified were:

- ❖ We have not done a good job planning for attrition. A number of competent, professional employees have left or will soon be eligible to leave. How do we maintain the capability to perform our mission efficiently and competently at a reasonable cost?
- ❖ Employees have not seen improvements result from past surveys.
- ❖ Work did not go away when the people did; it was just spread around to remaining employees.

The SAT also prioritized the identified gaps. As expected, their results were different since each one of us has a different view of the district. Their top three gaps identified were:

- ❖ The leadership is not communicating and reinforcing values to the employees as indicated in the employee survey.
- ❖ We are not communicating the vision, OPLAN, or policy decisions very well.
- ❖ There is no comprehensive, written, district-wide Human Resources Plan.

The Board of Directors is leading the effort to develop Tulsa District's goals and objectives. They are using information such as the Self-Assessment Report, the Southwestern Division Campaign Plan, goals and objectives from headquarters, resource information, and projected workload data in this development process. Any member of the BOD is available to answer questions about this process and receive your improvement suggestions.

Capt. Beckman Bids Farewell To Tulsa District

Peggy Massey
Public Affairs Office

Capt. Ivan P. Beckman's Hail and Farewell to Tulsa District was marked by praise and a bit of sadness as co-workers gathered to say goodbye to one who had become an integral part of Central Oklahoma Resident Office.

Beckman, a professional engineer, has distinguished himself throughout his career, having been awarded the Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, Army Achievement Medal with two Oak Leaf Clusters, Humanitarian Assistance Medal, and National Defense Service Medal.

The hard-working young man with the bright mind and broad smile had hit the ground running as a project engineer when he arrived at Central Oklahoma Resident Office in 1998 and was handed multiple projects. Following the May 3 tornadoes, he also assisted Federal Emergency Management Administration as a team leader in the Emergency Support Function.

He is a graduate of the U.S. Military Academy and the University of Missouri,



Ralph Hight, chief, Engineering and Construction Division, presented the Construction Excellence Award to Beckman. The medal is one of only four awarded since its inception. Dan Johnson, resident engineer, Central Oklahoma Resident Office, presented a plaque from the staff.

Rolla, with a masters degree in engineering management. He also graduated from the Army airborne, ranger, and jumpmaster schools.

Beckman and his wife, Haerin, a nursing student, have moved to Fort Carson, Colo., where he is assigned to the sixth engineering training support battalion.

Personnel Notes

Information supplied by Maggie Fletcher
EEO Office

March Hello

Christine Altendorf, PPMD, Civil Works Branch
Virgil Bridges, RMO
Heather Henson, OD, Keystone Project Office
Lorene Poole, E&C, Design Branch
Dallas Tomlinson, E&C, H&H Branch

Goodbye

Angela Burckhalter, E&C, HTRW Design Center
Robert Hill, E&C, Design Branch

Promotions

Hughie Guffey, OD, R. S. Kerr Project Office
William Jeffries, PER, Regulatory Branch
Jeff Knack, PER, Regulatory Branch
Carolyn Niceley, E&C, Quality Assurance Branch
Phil Orsburn, LO, Supply Branch
Allen Ryan, PER, Regulatory Branch
Lucy Spaulding, LO, Maintenance and Transportation Branch
Jean Wilkins, IM, Support Services Branch

April Hello

Thomas Benenati, OD, Fall River Project Office

Goodbye

Jess Hawes, OD, Physical Support Branch

Promotions

Aaron Goldner, EC, Tulsa Resident Office
Deanna Mall, CT, Civil Contracts Branch
Nita Williams, RMO, Operations/Engineering & Construction Section

E&C Evaluates AFVs

Peggy Massey, Public Affairs Office

Engineering and Construction Division officials are evaluating possible economic savings through the use of alternate fuel vehicles as replacements for GSA vehicles currently in use by field representatives at Tinker and Altus Air Force Bases and at Fort Sill.

The pictured vehicle is a Taylor-Dunn ET300, which travels at speeds up to 20 miles per hour. It runs approximately 30 miles on an electric charge and can be recharged by plugging into a wall outlet. Other attractive features of the vehicle are low maintenance and a life expectancy of 10-12 years.

The rationale is that alternate fuel vehicles pay for themselves through the difference in the cost of operation in three to four years. Considerable savings would result when compared to the current cost of GSA vehicles.



Ralph Hight, chief, Engineering and Construction Division, test drives a Taylor-Dunn ET300 electric vehicle. Tammy Moreno, Contracting Division, was a passenger for the demonstration.

Peggy Massey

Army Earth Day

Photos and article by Peggy Massey
Public Affairs Office

Army Earth Day was observed by Tulsa District April 20 with volunteers performing litter removal on surrounding grounds, parking lots, and the L.H. Redford Detention Site. This year marks the 30th anniversary of the nationwide environmental awareness movement from which Earth Day evolved.

Timothy Hartsfield, Earth Day chairman, credited Laura Long, Internal



Lisa Brannin and Julie McCollough (in visor) spent a lot of time cleaning up around the pond and “in the bull rushes.”

Review Office, and Dana Linduff, Real Estate Division, with spearheading this year’s effort. “They coordinated with Logistics, Safety, and Public Affairs Offices, the city of Tulsa which provided free trash bags for the clean-up, recruited volunteers to participate, and arranged for placement of the Earth Day posters.

Corps participants, including Hartsfield, Long, and Linduff, were Lisa Brannin, Virgil Bridges, Albert Candelaria, Maggie Fletcher, Ruth Fritz, Jackie Goranson, Willie Grimes, Yolane Hartsfield, Jan Holsomback, Dave Jones, Julie McCollough, Linda Polansky, Terry Rupe, Richard Thomas, and Joyice Yarbrough. All of the volunteers were given the choice of a young maple, pecan, dogwood, or shumarb oak donated by Tulsa Metropolitan Environment Trust which also donated pencils made from recycled denim.

Tying into Army Earth Day is the district’s year-round recycling program. Office quality paper and aluminum cans

Army’s Anniversary

The Army of the United States and the Corps of Engineers commemorate 225 years of service to the nation this year. “On June 9, we will celebrate the Army landmark at the same time we celebrate the Corps anniversary during Corps Day,” Col. Leonardo Flor, district engineer, said.

A group of resolute American colonists mobilized on the town square in Cambridge, Mass., forming a citizens’ army to fight for freedom from a tyrannical British monarchy. The Army was officially established as an institution on June 14, 1775, by the Second Continental Congress, who appointed George Washington the Army Commander-in-Chief. Washington named ex-British Col. Richard Gridley as chief engineer on June 16, 1775, a date acknowledged as the founding date of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Those patriots could not have appreciated fully how their actions would reverberate over the centuries and cast rays of hope for people of other nations far away who longed for liberty. It was the prelude to America’s birth of freedom, a profound moment in history.

Since that time, the Army has kept its inviolate contract with the American people – to fight their wars and guard their peace with honor. Secretary of the Army Louis Caldera, in a speech celebrating the Army’s birthday, stated, “The Army today is doing the nation’s heavy lifting. We are providing over 60 percent of the forces committed. We’re busier than ever. We’ve been living the 21st century for the past ten years. . . From the War for Independence to the Cold War, from Korea to Kosovo, from Panama to the Persian Gulf, America’s soldiers have done all that was asked of them and more.”



Army Earth Day, observed by Tulsa District April 20, finds Corps employees, Maggie Fletcher, chief, EEO, and Jan Holsomback, Engineering and Construction Division, committed to cleaning up the campus and the L.H. Redford detention site.

are recycled, and the revenue generated from that activity is used by the district’s recreational and welfare council for the benefit of employees. Also, district policy calls for removal of batteries, glass containers, cardboard and plastics from its solid waste receptacles for recycling purposes.

From the Security Office

Parking Identification

1. Employees working at the district headquarters building are required to have an SWT identification on their vehicles.

2. Logistics Office will handle vehicle identification requests. To get your sticker, visit that office.

3. All agencies on location will use this system.

This will help the security guards detect unauthorized vehicles in the parking lot and aid in “lights left on” notifications.

Reflections on Bosnian Tour

Glenna Wheatley
Quality Assurance Branch, E&C Division

On Jan. 6, 1999, thanks to an assignment in my Civil Affairs reserve unit, I left my comfortable, familiar job to embark on a new job in an unfamiliar land with unfamiliar people. I was not looking forward to going to Bosnia.

As the environmental engineer for the Combined Joint Civil Military Task Force, I had a daunting task ahead of me: coordinate with local authorities, volunteer and other non-governmental agencies, and other engineers to improve the environment.

Unlike the tasks associated with my work for Tulsa District, this job had very little to do with hazardous and toxic waste management and disposal. Due to the almost complete destruction of the industrial base during the war, there was little industrial waste to cause concern. Instead, the more pressing environmental issues included sanitary sewage treatment, municipal waste disposal, and potable water systems.

In a country where raw sewage is directly disposed of into the river networks, where unlicensed dumps and roadside trash are commonplace, and

where the majority of rural homes have no indoor plumbing, this was indeed a problem.

In my 10 months there, I completed many assessments, wrote many reports, and prepared and conducted many briefings. I enjoyed all of it, but probably had the most fun finishing a water distribution line extension.

In the middle of June, I took the reins of a project to assist the town of Ilijas (pronounced "eel-e-ahsh") in providing potable water to a rural village in an effort to both improve the infrastructure and assist in refugee returns. Working with a platoon of French and Spanish engineers, we accomplished this mission. It was not without its problems, however, we worked through them.

The municipality was very happy with our efforts and held two celebrations during the work. A final, special ceremony and celebration was held Oct. 8 when the tap was turned on. They gave those of us who had major roles in the completion of the project special certificates.

The project had been on the drawing board for four years, and the town had just about given up on ever seeing it completed. Knowing that I assisted in that accomplishment gave me a great feeling.



The author with one of the local workers who worked with the engineers on the water line in Ilijas. Civil Affairs engineers coordinate projects to assist the host nation improve their environment. Civilians are always involved in the work effort.

One of my least favorite tasks was that of "truck counter" for a week. Our task force was given the mission to observe a fuel refinery located in the Bosnian-Serb section of the country known as the Republic of Srpska. And yes, everything you've heard about Bosnia being a vowel-challenged country is true. Srpska is pronounced "Serpska."

There we were in the town of Bosanski Brod, sitting in a fuel refinery, counting fuel trucks. Not the most exciting job in the world, but almost everyone on the task force took a turn at it. The mission was to monitor fuel leaving the refinery to ensure no fuels were headed for the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in defiance of the United Nations embargo imposed on them after the war in Kosovo.

Words and photos can't adequately describe the damage to the country. The totality of the damage and evidence of the destruction years after the war supposedly ended have to be experienced to be understood.



A very common sight in the more rural areas of the country.

See Tour, page 15

... Tour

from page 14

We Americans take so much for granted. We live and work inside buildings that haven't been shot up or practically destroyed by artillery, mortar, or other explosives. Our road network is advanced, relatively well-maintained, and capable of managing heavy traffic loads. Sewage treatment and proper waste disposal measures are available to almost everyone. And our children grow up without the fear of losing life or limbs to mines while playing in a field.

These things aren't taken for granted in Bosnia and Herzegovina. In Sarajevo alone, thousands of families have taken

up residency in apartments whose walls have holes blown through them and windows long since shattered. The danger of falling chunks from buildings in the downtown area is very real. Years after the last of the war damage was inflicted, repairs are still underway.

More than 95 percent of the road network is and always has been only two lanes, which makes passing one of the most dangerous activities. Maintenance is poor and war damage is still common.

And you don't go aimlessly wandering in some lush meadow or forest if you like keeping all your body parts attached. But the people adapt as people always do, and life continues.

By far, the best part about the mission was the people. Our task force was

made up primarily of French, Germans, and Americans with some Italians, Dutch, Swedes, Brits, and many others from both NATO and non-NATO countries. With so many different nationalities, communication was a challenge.

I worked with many professional, wonderful people, and made many non-American friends.

I have been back in the states for a few months now. Someone recently asked me if I lost faith in mankind after seeing the residual effects of ethnic cleansing and mass murders. While it was truly despicable and depressing what these people did to each other, what I saw in the NATO structure and cooperative effort restored my faith.

Demanding Campers

Randy Shannon, Park Ranger
Eufaula Area Office

The date was February 29, 2000 — leap year no less. Rangers Rick Smither and Randy Shannon were making their rounds at Brooken Cove Public Use Area on Eufaula Lake to see if there were any problems prior to the scheduled April 1 park opening. We discovered campers set up on site 45, although the park had been closed since November 1999! Their camper was nothing more than a pile of sticks woven into the fork of a large sycamore tree, but they were demanding.

At Eufaula, we are known to be pretty accommodating, but they asked a lot! They wanted to reserve 15 sites even though policy limits that request to four, and they wanted this privilege without going through ReserveAmerica — I mean ReserveUSA — at 1-877-444-6777. To make matters worse, they wanted the sites until July 4th, way over the 14-day limit and 14-day extension and through a major holiday! All those policies! We decided we needed some advice.

Log:

0800, March 6 — Talked to Max Fowler, environmental specialist. Told him our problem: Campers, camper made of sticks, bathroom not open yet (definitely an environmental concern). His answer: Give them anything they want. This couldn't be happening. Rangers just don't violate policies!

1315, March 6 — Talked to Kevin Stubbs, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and Alan Jenkins, Sutton Center. A plan is hatched! We will spy on the campers from a plane to see what is going on in their little hideaway of sticks! Answer: Nothing. We will be watching though.

March 29 — The campers are acting strange; only one will leave the camp at a time! What are they up to? Another call to the USFWS and the Sutton Center. A new plan! Actually, it's

the same as the last, to fly over and see what is going on in there. Answer: Procreation. These guys are trying to start a family in a public park!

1100, April 4 — We meet again with Kevin Stubbs, biologist, and John Elofson, special agent, USFWS; Max Fowler, Corps environmental specialist, and us, park rangers, USACE, CESWT-OD-FE. We discuss the problem; another new plan. This one doesn't involve an airplane, just 1,400 feet of bright orange fence, nine "No Boats" buoys, and "Keep Out" signs. All this trouble just for a couple of campers!

1400, April 5 — We have placed the fence and buoys; we order special signs. Now we need a good explanation why these guys are getting special treatment, so the other campers won't want an orange fence, too. We have it; we'll tell them these guys have a law. Yea! A special law called the Endangered Species Act, that we have to treat them special, and that the other campers should feel privileged just to camp close to this pair. They can tell their grandchildren that they camped in the same camp with the Brooken Cove bald eagles and maybe, just maybe, if their luck is good, the grandchildren can hear stories of the Brooken Cove eagle's first flight.

Note: Even though there have been several news stories about bald eagles being removed from the Endangered Species list, this is a proposed rule. The bald eagle is still listed as threatened until the final rule becomes effective after July 6, 2000.

The bald eagle may continue to use the same nest for more than a decade and the nest, which may be more than five feet in width, could reach weights of several thousand pounds.



... Spotlight

from page 2

Because of the outstanding participation by many employees, the district made a big splash at this year's Corporate Challenge. The Corps team finished second among 32 teams in Division V! Several co-workers received medals for placing first, second, or third in their respective events and age groups. Gold medal winners were: **J. D. Stigall**, 5-k run and mile run; **Eddie Mattioda**, 5-k run; **Dawn Knight** and **Terry Rupe**, coed shoot for hoops; and **Mike Love** and **Everett Laney**, executive shuttle relay. Second place finishers were: **Everett Laney** and **Zipporah Harbin**, coed 40-yard sprint relay; **Lisa Samilton**, **Zipporah Harbin**, **Terry Murphree**, and **Everett Laney**, coed 200-meter sprint relay; and our **Volleyball Team** which was recognized in the last *TDR*. Third place finishers were: **Mary Ann Duke**, 7.4-k bike race; and **Dawn Knight** and **Carla Bradford** in the mile run. Fourth place winners are: **Richard Alexander**, **Christine Altendorf**, **John Wilson**, and **John Wagner**, golf team; **Carole Niceley** and **Everett Laney**, master's obstacle course; **Charles Wilson**, 7.4-k bike race; and **Diane Cianci** and **Bob Williams**, 5-k run. Also, our tee shirts designed by **Joyce Yarbrough** and **Lisa Samilton** were entered in the competition and finished in second place. HOOAH!

Col. Peters, chief of programs and construction division, Langley Air Force Base, Va., wrote to thank **Burl Ragland** and **Steve Harmon** for their excellent briefings at the Air Combat Command Agent Workshop in Fort Worth, Texas.

I also received a letter from Principal Chief Don Abney of the Sac and Fox Nation for the district's "excellent services" in providing engineering and technical assistance in the restructuring of three sanitary lagoons. Chief Abney singled out **John Sparlin**, **Bernd Koeber**, and **David Harder** "for their professionalism in the performance of their duties."

Congratulations to **Clif Warren** and **Mona Wagner** who recently graduated

from the Army Management Staff College on a non-resident basis. Mona won third place in the professional journal article writing contest out of 50 participants and Clif was awarded "Best in Seminar" for his group of 12 participants.

Thanks to the efforts of many employees, Take Your Daughters/Sons to Work Day was a huge success. Approximately 70 people participated in this valuable and informative program.

Guy Green is finishing out his year as a Southwestern Division Emerging Leader successfully by "emerging." **Cynthia Kitchens** and **Jeff Waldie** are our SWD ELs this year. Together with **Captains Terry Orange** and **Dom Sparacio**, these five future Corps senior leaders helped facilitate the May 8-9 Senior Leaders Conference.

Incidentally, the current candidates of the district's Leadership Development Program nominated **Cynthia Kitchens** for the Human Relations Award thanks to her excellence and determination in pursuing individual self-improvement.

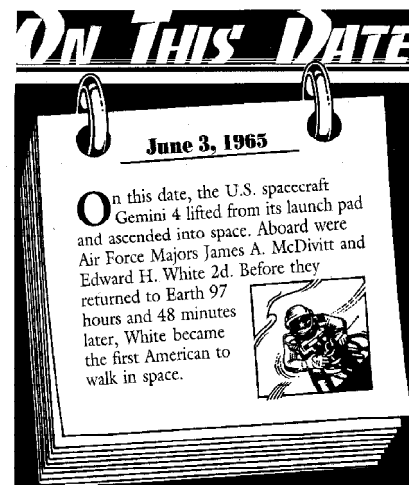
The district continues to do its part as a corporate citizen. Ann Patton, head of the city of Tulsa Project Impact, sent a letter thanking **Pete Navesky**, **Lt. Col. Mike Norton**, **Earl Groves**, **Burgin Towe**, and **Gene Lilly** for staffing the Project Impact booth at the home and garden show.

Laura Long, **Calvin Hall**, and **Pete Navesky** recently assisted as exam graders and exam proctors in the Oklahoma State-wide MATHCOUNTS competition. The top seventh and eighth grade students from across the state competed for the top spot to ultimately represent Oklahoma in the national competition later this year.

Finally, I want to put in a plug for safety, your safety. On May 9, we started the first link of the Risk Management Chain Training when your senior leaders received the CD-ROM-based presentation. This chain teaching will extend unbroken until every employee receives the presentation from his/her supervisor. Please devote your full attention to this

training and adapt the risk management process to your daily work.

*See you at Corps Day!
Essayons!*



... Small Business

from page 6

small businesses, some of whom may not even realize they fit the government's definition of a small business," Hartsfield said.

According to Army procurement regulations, small business is defined generally as independently owned and operated with certain limits on volume of business, number of employees, financial resources, sales territory, and nature of business. Depending on the category of contract activity, a business also has a limit on total assets to be able to qualify as a small business.

"We have contract opportunities that run the full gamut from *a to z*, and we are informing small businesses about them," Hartsfield explained. "We help level the playing field by identifying small businesses, determining their capabilities, and matching them with Corps work within the district."

Hartsfield works with Rick Hedrick, chief, Contracting Division, his staff, the project managers in the Tulsa District, and with other districts to identify work for small businesses early on in the life of Corps projects. The program includes contracting activities in Oklahoma, Kansas, Arkansas, Texas and Louisiana.

Need Blood?

Catherine Williams
Wellness Committee

Tulsa District has a Memorandum of Understanding with the American Red Cross Blood Services that provides financial reimbursement to all employees if they use blood or blood products, as long as they are employed with the Corps of Engineers. We must maintain a 25 percent level of participation in blood donations based on the number of employees in the district office.

If an employee is unable to attend a scheduled blood drive in the district office, they can go to a Red Cross blood donation site and give. If you do that, please fill out a "blue card" indicating you are donating on behalf of the Corps of Engineers, and it will count toward our donation percentage.

The ARCBS will also provide financial reimbursement to any employee's tax dependent family member requiring blood or blood products. Coverage is good for one year from the date of an employee's last successful donation.

Employees are allowed to "gift" their donations to another person and his/her tax dependents not covered above. Donors must complete a Gift Benefit Form at the time of their donation and may give one year of individual plan coverage to a designee.

The ARCBS does not impose limitations for eligibility based on waiting periods or medical conditions. Financial reimbursement is for blood processing fees not covered by insurance. Coverage is as follows: Up to 20 percent for 100 units of whole blood, products derived from whole blood, or apheresis products. The amount of reimbursement shall not exceed current processing fees charged by ARCBS, Southwest Region, for any blood component unit even though the patient may be hospitalized outside the region's service area. Financial reimbursement is made directly to the claimant.

Employees should contact the ARCBS Central Benefits Administrator to initiate a claim regarding the benefits of the Blood Donor Advantage Plan. For claim information, or questions regarding the plan, call 1-800-810-1280.



Condolences

To Tom Logsdon on the March 25 death of his father, Robert Logsdon. Tom is the chief of Military Project Management in Programs and Project Management Division.

To Robert Stubbs, Logistics Office, on the March 27 death of his mother, Molly Stubbs.

To family, friends, and coworkers of Barbara Cravens, Public Affairs Office, who passed away April 27.

To family, friends, and former coworkers of Alfred Neil Steele who died April 8 after a short illness. He retired from Tulsa District in 1980 after 30 years of service. His final duty position was as chief, Channel Improvement Section, Design Branch. Among many other distinctions, he was also among the first project managers for the district. Alfred was also the father of David Steele, current Chief, Planning, Environmental, and Regulatory Division.

To Jeff and Becky Miller on the April 20 death of their 5-year-old son, Jacob. Jeff is an electrical engineer, Technical Support Branch, Operations Division.

To Deb Oswalt on the May 7 death of her 21-year-old niece, Christa Levan. Deb is a hydrologic technician in H&H Branch, E&C.

Congratulations

Matt Blackwell, Prue High School, has been named an All-American Scholar. He maintained a 3.8 grade point average and is president of this year's graduating class. He participated in student council, accounting mentorship, and honor roll. He was a class officer and student council representative and lettered in both football and baseball.

Matt is the son of John Blackwell, Information Management Office.

Did You Know?

Prior to increased security at the district office, we had 18 handicapped parking spaces. We now have 25.

What created the need for additional spaces? There was a need for handicapped parking spaces for the Annex Building, and IRS requested additional spaces.

Corps Day

June 9, 2000

Awards Ceremony

9:30 a.m.

Room 210

Picnic

12 Noon

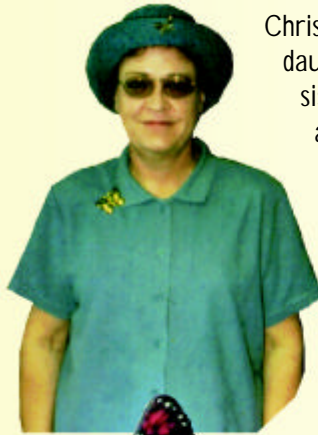
Sand Springs River Parks

Retirees, call Kristi Helterbrand at
669-7007 by June 2 for picnic tickets.

Picnic Activities: Softball, Horseshoes, Volleyball, Air Boat
Rides, Bingo, and Car Show.

barbara cravens ...

A Tribute



Christian
daughter
sister
aunt
cousin
friend
leader
teacher
English major
Faulkner lover
TU alum
librarian
realty assistant
technical writer
editor
public affairs specialist
believer



mentor
safety net
fire warden
speech writer
coordinator
glue
listener
student
honor graduate
flood fighter
flood victim
mature innocent
cook
bottlewasher
volunteer
giver
gift
singer
nature lover
hugger
supporter
pen and stamp collector
advocate
forgiver
Evangelist ...



Greatly Missed



On Redondo

On Redondo the waves crest, then melt back
into the ocean, leaving only the taste of
brine from where the earth and sky lay entwined.
The waves approach and form.
Ever more distinct, they grow and become too powerful for
the ocean to contain
And the fluid blue atop those waves betrays the emerging
gray—then white
No longer fluid, but rough from the journey.
And those waves soon bend beneath their own weight,
Even as they seem proudest.
And when the beach becomes so close
That their feet begin to drag on sand
The waves exhale and their white collapses back into the
blue.
That briny blue,
And even as that wave still falls, the next will grow
and begin to gray.

On Redondo my father told me how my grandfather died.
How his chest swelled proud one last time
Then sunk into itself under its own weight.
My father told him not to be ashamed,
That to feel the sand drag beneath his feet
Meant the beach was near and the journey complete.
Do not fear, you have made us proud,
You have earned the right to crest and melt
And leave the mist of brine to us who follow you to shore.

On Redondo the wave stands up
And looks back on the blue he leaves behind.
Then as he grays, then leans ahead
And seems ready to spring onto the beach
He is pulled back down.
Though it seems he leaves only mist and brine
He ripples back to meet the next wave and guide it into
shore.

L. James Flor, USMA '02
September, 1999
On the loss of his grandfather.



Recycling Report

In 1999, the Tulsa District headquarters office recycled approximately:

2,520 pounds of aluminum for \$630
27,820 pounds of office-quality paper for \$169.80

The program successfully removed about 31,000 pounds of recycled materials from the solid wastestream.

From the Mailbox



To the Corps Family from David Steele:

Thanks to all of you in the Tulsa District family for your prayers and expressions of sympathy in the loss of my dad, Al Steele. Dad remained a big fan of the Tulsa District to the end. He took great delight in the retiree activities and in swapping stories of the old times. He liked to keep current with the latest activities of the Corps, and even though he was convinced that the Tulsa District was the best place in the world to work, he never stopped giving advice on how to make it better.

On behalf of my mom and the rest of my family, thanks and may God bless all of you.

Cold War Certificates

Submitted by Earl Rodkey, retiree

Members of the armed forces and federal government civil employees who faithfully served the United States during the Cold War era are entitled to a Cold War Recognition Certificate. The era was from Sept. 2, 1945, to Dec. 25, 1991.

Procedures on requesting the certificates can be found on the internet at [HTTP://COLDWAR.ARMY.MIL](http://COLDWAR.ARMY.MIL). A toll-free fax number, 800-723-9262, is in service or the help desk can be reached at 703-275-6279. E-mail address is CWRS@Fairfax-EMHLARMY.MIL and the mailing address is:

Cold War Recognition
4035 Ridge Top Road, Suite 400
Fairfax, VA 22030

Retiree Breakfast 2000

The Retiree Breakfast was resurrected this year and held on April 27 at the Harvest Buffet. From these random shots, it appears a good time was had by all. Retiree coordinators were Janice Orvis and Jerry and Fauneal Nash.



Hugging and mugging — Reggie Kikugawa, retiree, with Pat Parker, wife of retiree Frank Parker.



Roselle Steele with her son, David, chief of Planning, Environmental, and Regulatory Division.



Retiree Richard "Barney" and Christine Shearman



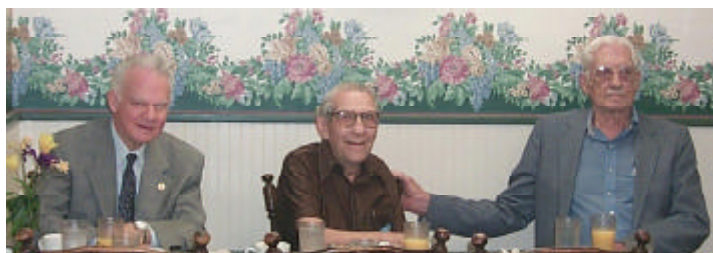
Left to right, Pat Morris and Iva Turinsky, retirees, and Neva Smith, Resource Management Office.



Jo Moore, retiree, won one of the door prizes.



Jerry Nash greets retiree Lee Stigall and his wife, J. D., of Resource Management Office.



Left to right, John Clampitt, Harlan Dunn, and Charles Krause, retirees



Flash from the Past

Left to right, Joanne Duncan, Lea Craig, Bob Hensley, Bill Stevens, John Hill, Jerry Triggs, Ken Perry, Wayne Morgan, Frank Shimkus, John Turnbull, David Steele, and Henry Kleck.

Courtesy of David Steele

“Last Man’s Club”

This photograph, taken in August 1973, is of the old Red River Planning Section on the seventh floor of the Petroleum Building at Fifth and Boulder in downtown Tulsa.

The occasion was the going away party for the chief of the section, Bob Hensley, who was leaving to start his own construction company.

The photo has been handed down in succession to the next oldest guy. Now, only one, David Steele, chief of Planning, Environmental, and Regulatory Division, is left on duty.

Editor’s Note: We’d like to hear from you. If you have a picture from the past you’d be willing to share, please send it along with identifying information to the Public Affairs Office. The photo will be returned to you. Call 669-7361 if you have any questions.